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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

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INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Switzerland/France/Near East/Pakistan/ Uruguay/Liechtenstein

DATE DISTR.

19 November 948

SUBJECT 25X1A6a

Buehrle Negotiates Arms Deal with France

NO. OF PAGES 1

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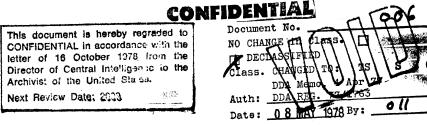
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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.



SOURCE

- 1. Early in November 1948, the Swiss Government granted Emil Buehrle an export license for 108 x 20 mm. Cerlikon guns; World War II model, with 20,000 rounds of ammunition apiece. These were supposedly sold to the French Government. The price was quoted as 40,000 Swiss francs for each gun; the total price was 10,000,000 Swiss francs. Shipment was made to Toulon. One Gintteray Brayonce (sic) negotiated on behalf of the French.
- 2. The Swiss Government granted the license on the condition that the French Minister of War give a written statement to the effect that the guns would remain in France. The statement which was accepted by the Swiss contained a clause allowing France to dispose of the arms at will when they are considered obsolete.
 - 3. Using this clause, Buehrle is immediately shipping 58 of the guns to Pakistan and the remaining 50 to Uruguay. The true destination is the Arab League or Israel.
 - 4. The French War Ministry has been granted a 15 percent commission for producing the statement described in paragraph 2. The commission is to be deposited to anonymous numbered accounts in Vaduz, Liechtenstein, and will be used for French Intelligence Service funds and for the personal profit of the officers involved in the deal.
 - 5. Buehrle expects to conclude further deals of this sort until a total of 600 guns, which have been returned by the Swiss Army as obsolete, are disposed of. Gerber, Buehrle's sales manager, sold a portion of this stock during his visit to Pakistan and Egypt during September and October 1948



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